

News Release

May 22, 2006

-Nicaraguan child abuser arrested by ICE-

MIAMI- A 40-year-old Nicaraguan national convicted for burning his 12-year-old stepson with a soldering iron and beating him repeatedly with a belt buckle, electrical wire and broomstick was arrested here Thursday by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detention and removal officers.

Freddy Perez was convicted in a Miami-Dade County court on Feb. 16, 1999. He was sentenced to five years probation, along with 150 hours of community service, domestic violence counseling and parenting classes.

Perez, who failed to appear for his immigration hearing on May 11, 2006, was ordered removed in absentia by an immigration judge.

"This man left irreparable damage in his stepson's life," said Michael Rozos, field office director for detention and removal in Florida. "Those illegally in the country engaging in horrible acts such as these should now that you too will be found and arrested."

Perez is in ICE custody at the Krome Detention Center awaiting the outcome of his case.

This enforcement action was part of the Secure Border Initiative (SBI), a comprehensive multi-year plan launched by the Department of Homeland Security to secure America's borders and reduce illegal migration. Under SBI, Homeland Security seeks to gain operational control of both the northern and southern borders, while re-engineering the detention and removal system to ensure that illegal aliens are removed from the country quickly and efficiently. SBI also involves strong interior enforcement efforts, including enhanced worksite enforcement investigations and intensified efforts to track down and remove illegal aliens inside this country.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of four integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.

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